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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of: )  
Masami TSUKAMOTO ) Examiner: K. Brown  
Application No.: 09/829,915 ) Group Art Unit: 2877  
Filed: April 11, 2001 ) Allowed: March 26, 2003  
For: CONTAMINATION PREVENTION ) Confirmation No.: 8192  
IN OPTICAL SYSTEM ) April 29, 2003

Commissioner for Patents  
**Box RCE**  
Washington, D.C. 20231

TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 form. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

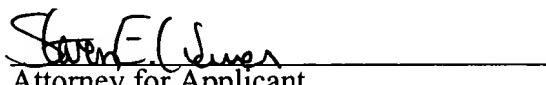
Japanese patent document number 6-260375 has been discussed on page 4 of the specification. This document corresponds to U.S. Patent No. 5,559,584, a copy of which is also enclosed.

Applicant requests that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 form be initialed and returned indicating that such information has been considered.

No fee is believed to be due. Nevertheless, the Commissioner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 06-1205 should any fee be deemed necessary for filing this paper.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our Washington D.C. office by telephone at (202) 530-1010. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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